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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/748,667

12/31/2003

Chao-Cheng Lee

TOP 348

2788

23995

7590

04/25/2006

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, PATRICIA T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2817

DATE MAILED: 04/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/748,667

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Examiner

Patricia T. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 13-18 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3 and 14-18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6,10 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 7-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, last line, "large-resistance time constant" should read -- large-resistance capacitive time constant -- in accordance to the arguments in the Remarks filed 4/10/2006.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Llewellyn et al., U.S. Patent # 6, 127,893.

Fig. 5 of Llewellyn et al. discloses an amplifier circuit comprising: amplifier Amp 2 can be read as an operational amplifier; resistor network 500 can be read as a first resistor network wherein node connects between the two resistors R and 2R from the output of amplifier Amp1 can be read as an input node; node connects between the resistor 2R and the input of Amp2 can be read as an output node; resistor 2R connects to the input node and ground can be read as a first resistor; the horizontal resistor R

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connects between input node and the output node can be read as a second resistor; switch S21A and feedback resistor 2R can be read as a loading unit or a second resistor network.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Llewellyn et al., U.S. Patent # 6, 127,893 in view of Miller, U.S. Patent # 3,863,200 and in view of Mehr, U.S. Patent # 6,545,534 B1.

Regarding claim 10, although Llewellyn et al. does not have the loading unit comprises a capacitive device or a capacitive device coupled between the second input terminal and the output terminal, Mehr teaches the use of the capacitive device 110a in Fig. 1b and it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to use the teaching of Mehr in the circuit of Llewellyn et al. in order to control the frequency response to a desired range.

Regarding claim 13, although Llewellyn et al. does not have a capacitive device coupled between the second input terminal and an input voltage, Miller teaches the use of the capacitive device 36 in Fig. 3 and it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to use the teaching of

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Miller in the circuit of Llewellyn et al. in order to couple the signal to the amplifier since even without the teaching of Miller, it is well known in the art to use an input coupling capacitor to couple an input into a circuit in order to have a practical use for the circuit.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7- 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 2-3 and 14-18 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1768. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on 571-272-1769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PTN

April 23, 2006

Patricia Nguyen

**PATRICIA NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**